

NORTH AMERICAN F-86F SABRE

No. 344

TESTORS

Fujimi
PLASTIC MODELS LTD.



HISTORY

The *F-86 Sabre* was the United States' first sweptwing jet fighter. Utilizing captured German scientific data as well as that available from NACA (National Advisory Committee on Aeronautics), North American Aviation developed the Sabre from technical experience gained in producing the Navy *FJ-1 Fury*. Incorporating a wing sweep of 35 degrees, the F-86 was able to fly faster before the onset of Mach buffet as portions of the airframe developed transsonic air flows. Handling was improved and the F-86 broke the speed of sound on 26 April 1948.

The F-86 was moved rapidly into production and pilot training with the aircraft proving easy to handle. Pilots enjoyed the aircraft especially *Sabres* based upon the original F-86A airframe design. (The all-weather F-86D was a wholly different machine with much different fight characteristics.)

When the United States entered the Korean War the *F-86 Sabre* found itself pitted against the Soviet MiG-15. The airplane, in the hands of well trained U.S. pilots performed extremely well and exhibited a kill ration of 13 MiGs lost for each Sabre lost.

The airplane enjoyed improvements throughout the Korean War. The automatic leading edge slats were done away with, a new engine was installed and a leading edge area increase known as the "6-3" wing was installed. These changes, for the most part, were the key to the much better performing F-86F. It was the *F-86F Sabre* which fully gave the USAF total superiority in Korea air battles.

The F-86 was also flown by many friendly nations including Canada (where it was also built), Germany, South Africa, Italy, Columbia, England, Nationalist Chinese Air Force and Japan. The *Sabre* was a remarkably good aircraft and has earned an enviable place in history.

SPECIFICATIONS

Power	General Electric J47-GE-27 (5910 lbs. thrust)
Weight (Combat)	14,981 lbs.
Span	37.54 ft.
Length	37.12 ft.
Height	14.79 ft.
Max. Speed	695 mph.
Range	1,615 miles

REFERENCES

F-86 Sabre in Action;
Davis (Squadron/Signal)

The Canadair Sabre;
Joos (Aircraft in Profile - Doubleday)

BEFORE STARTING

1. Study the illustrations and sequence of assembly before beginning.
2. Decide how much detail you wish to add to your model and whether or not you intend to modify or "convert" the basic model in any way. Study carefully all available reference material before beginning to ensure an authentic model.
3. Due to the amount of parts in this kit, do not detach the parts from the runners (sprue) until you need them. This helps avoid confusion and lost parts.
4. When cementing the parts together, check the way in which one part fits together with another. This ensures a neat job.
5. Always remember, when working with plastic model cement and paint, make sure your work is well-ventilated. The fumes from plastic modeling products can be harmful if inhaled.

PREPARATION OF PARTS

1. Never tear parts off the runners (sprue). Use a Testor Hobby Knife, nail clippers, or small wire cutters.
2. It is possible some parts may require a little attention with a file or sandpaper to ensure a proper fit and neat appearance. Hobby files and Testor Hobby Sandpaper appropriate for model-building are available in most good hobby shops.

3. If you desire, you may fill any seams (where parts go together) or imperfections with Testor Contour Putty for Plastic Models which is also available at good hobby shops.

PAINTING

You can obtain an excellent finish on your model using Testor enamels. Detailed descriptions of type of paint and color are included throughout the pages that follow.

Good brushes are essential for proper detailing. **Testor Model Master** brushes are recommended and available at good hobby stores. Be sure you have the entire selection for all your modeling needs. Always keep your brushes clean and soft by cleaning in Testor thinner, washing in soap and water, and storing flat or with bristles up when not in use.

Wash plastic parts before detaching them from the sprue. Warm water and liquid detergent remove the oils left from the manufacturing process. Let the parts dry and avoid excessive handling. Immediately before painting, wipe the parts with a "tac rag" (available at automotive centers) to remove dust and lint.

Most small parts are best painted while still attached to the sprue or they may be detached and held with tweezers or "magic" type transparent tape. Paint in one direction only. If your paint is the correct consistency, brush strokes will disappear as the color dries. If the paint seems too thick, thin it with Testor Paint Thinner. Wheels may be detached from the sprue and fit onto toothpicks or matchsticks for painting. Then just hold the paintbrush against the edge of the wheel and rotate the wheel to obtain a neat clean finish.

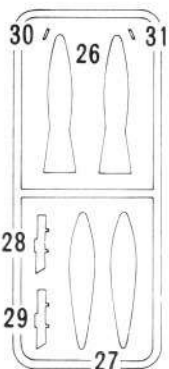
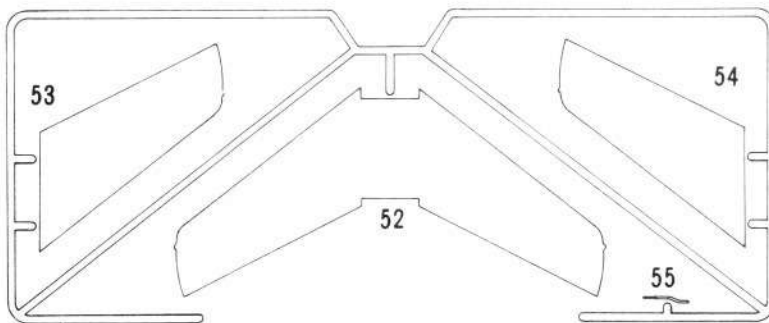
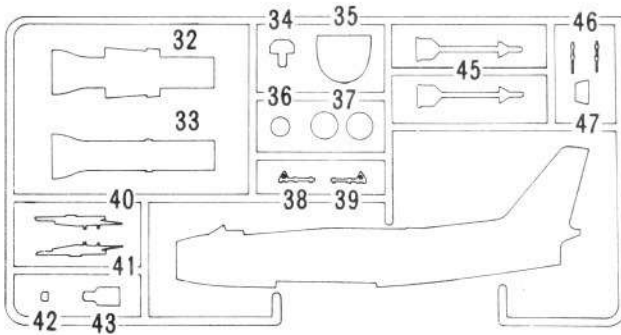
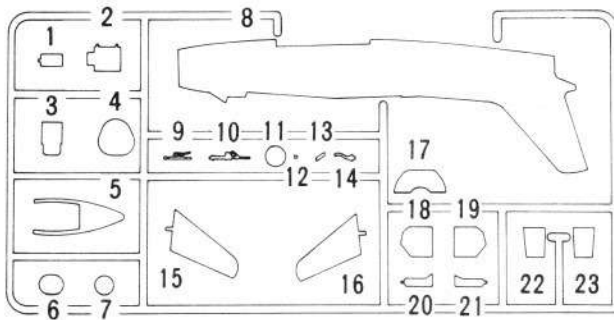
Let the paint dry completely before handling. When the parts are dry, assemble the model, following the directions closely. Remember cement will not stick to painted surfaces. Using your Testor Hobby Knife, carefully remove paint from all surfaces to be cemented. After you have assembled your model you may touch up areas where cement has marred the finish.

Liquid cement, Testor #3502, is recommended for construction since it can produce the neatest, quickest, and strongest glue joints. Apply small amounts of cement, using the tip of a 00 brush, to the surfaces to be joined while holding the parts in place. Do **not** use large amounts of cement.

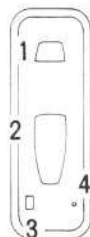
Tweezers will be useful in assembling the many small parts in this kit. The type used by postage stamp collectors is recommended.

Cut and remove this sheet.

Remove this page from the instruction sheet by cutting along indicated line. Use the drawings of the complete sprue as a part-locating reference when building the model.



C Parts



Parts List

- | | |
|---------------------------|-------------------------|
| 1. Nose gear cover 1 | 32. Air pipe (B) |
| 2. " " 2 | 33. " (T) |
| 3. Seat | 34. Instrument Panel |
| 4. Air intake | 35. Compressor |
| 5. Canopy frame | 36. Exhaust pipe |
| 6. Air intake cover | 37. Main wheel |
| 7. Exhaust cover | 38. Main gear strut (L) |
| 8. Fuselage (R) | 39. " (R) |
| 9. Main gear strut | 40. Pylon 3 |
| 10. Nose gear strut | 41. " |
| 11. Nose wheel | 42. Head rest |
| 12. Fuel vent | 43. Seat |
| 13. Fuel vent | 44. AIM9B Side winder |
| 14. Control column | 45. Air brake jack |
| 15. Stabilator (R) | 46. Gun sight |
| 16. " (L) | 47. Wing bottom |
| 17. Bulkhead | 52. Wing top (L) |
| 18. Main gear cover 1 (L) | 53. " (R) |
| 19. " (R) | 54. Pitot tube |
| 20. Main gear cover 2 (L) | |
| 21. " (R) | |
| 22. Gun Panel (R) | |
| 23. " (L) | |
| 24. Air brake (R) | |
| 25. " (L) | |
| 26. 120gal tank(B) | |
| 27. " (T) | |
| 28. Pylon | |
| 29. " | |
| 30. Tank strut(L) | |
| 31. " (R) | |

Canopy

- | |
|---------------------|
| C1. Canopy (F) |
| C2. " (R) |
| C3. Gun sight glass |
| C4. ADF Antenna |

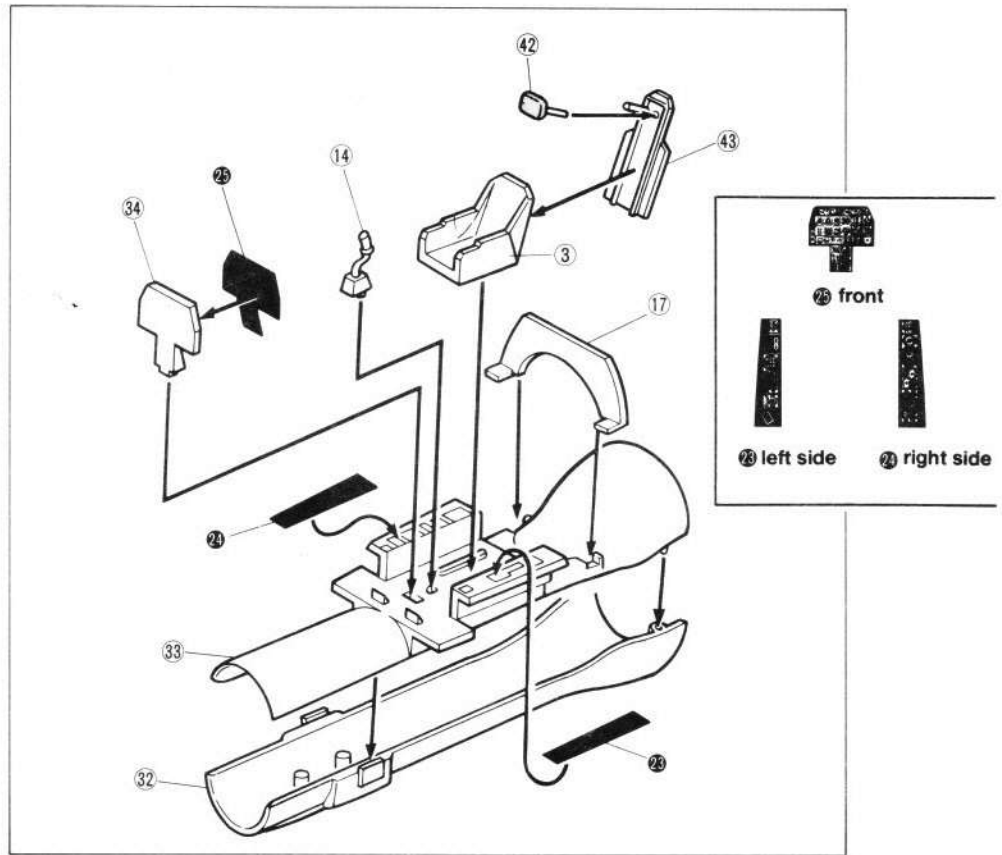
1 COCKPIT/INTAKE

Preliminary Painting

- 17, 43, 33:
FS 36231 Dark Gull Gray
 33 top of control consoles only; 14, 34:
FS 37038 Flat Black
 32, 33 interior of intake tunnel only:
FS 17178 Chrome Silver
 3:
FS 34087 Olive Drab
 42:
FS 31136 Insignia Red

Assembly

- 1. Cement parts together as shown. Note that you can use the printed instrument and side console panels 25, 23 and 24 instead of painting if you prefer. Cut these panels from the instruction sheet with a pair of scissors, then cement in place.



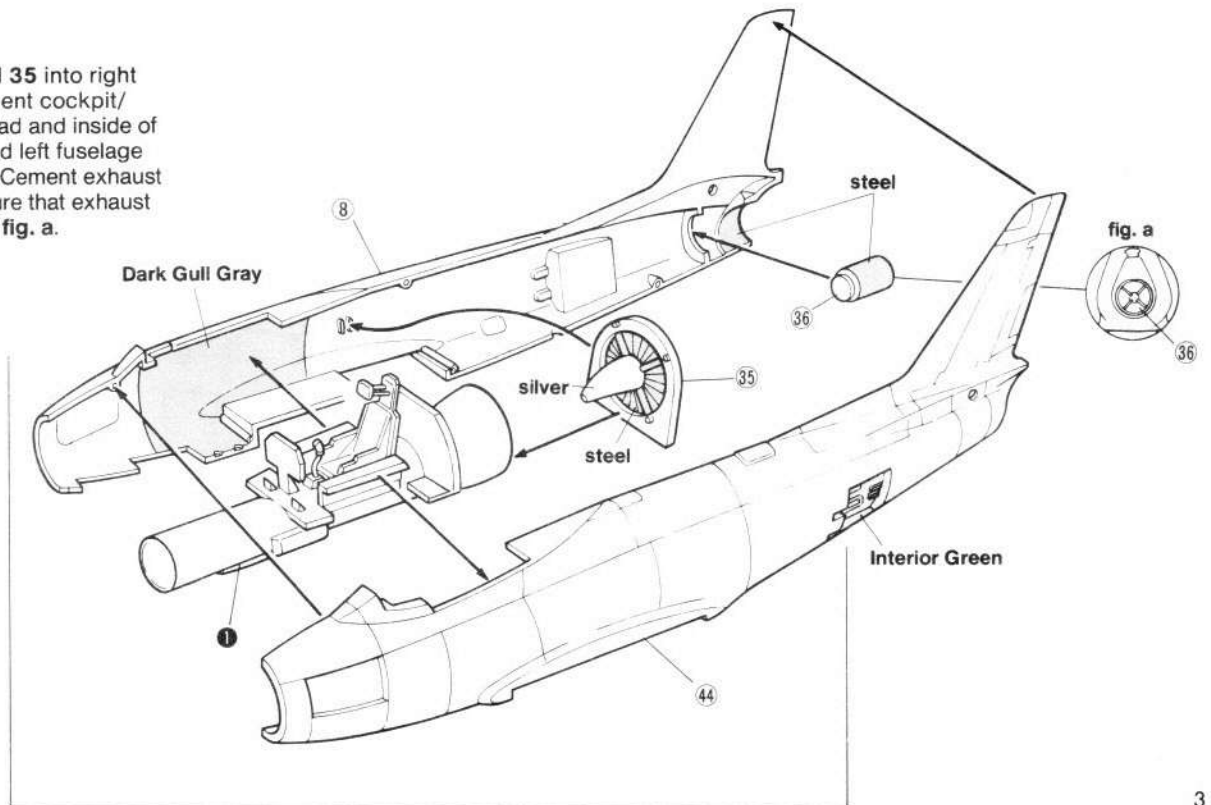
2 FUSELAGE

Preliminary Painting

- 8, 44 interior of cockpit area (see drawing):
FS 36231 Dark Gull Gray
 8, 44 interior of exhaust area; 35 turbine; 36:
No. 1780 Steel
 8, 44 interior of dive brake wells:
FS 34151 Interior Green
 35 center cone only:
FS 17178 Chrome Silver

Assembly

- 1. Cement turbine bulkhead 35 into right fuselage half 8, then cement cockpit/intake assembly to bulkhead and inside of fuselage. Cement right and left fuselage halves 8 and 44 together. Cement exhaust pipe 36 into tail making sure that exhaust vanes line up as shown at fig. a.



3 CANOPY

Preliminary Painting

5 section indicated, 47:

FS 37038 Flat Black

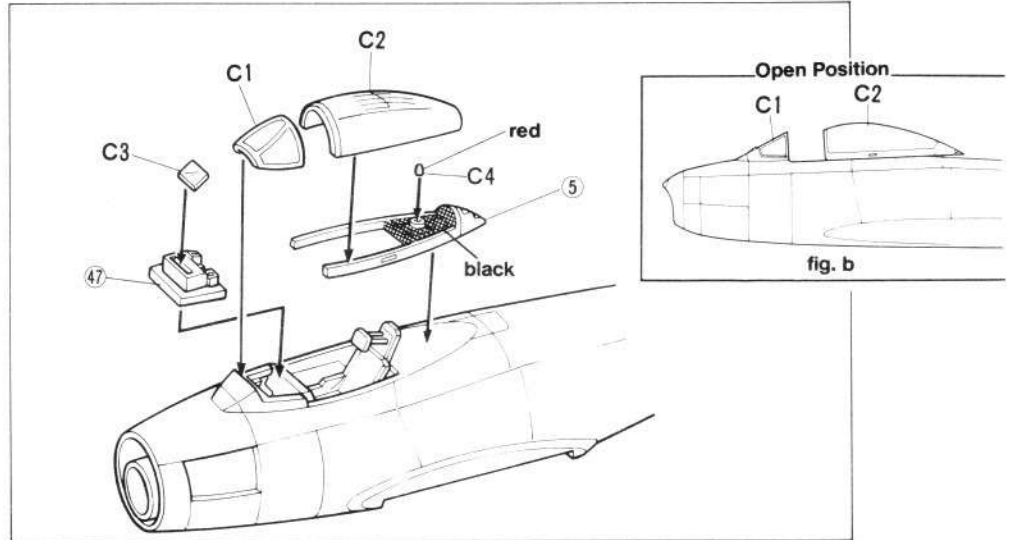
C4:

FS 31136 Insignia Red

Assembly

- 1. Cement gunsight 47 to fuselage. Cement sight reflector glass C3 to gunsight. Cement windscreen C1 to fuselage. Cement formation light C4 to canopy frame. Cement frame 5. Cement canopy C2 to canopy frame. Cement canopy to fuselage in either open or closed position (the drawing at fig. b shows canopy in open position).

NOTE: Clear parts are best glued in place with white glue, which will not mar the plastic, and thus results in a better appearance than conventional model cement.



4 WINGS/ELEVATORS

Preliminary Painting

24, 25 inner side of doors:

FS 34151 Interior Green

46:

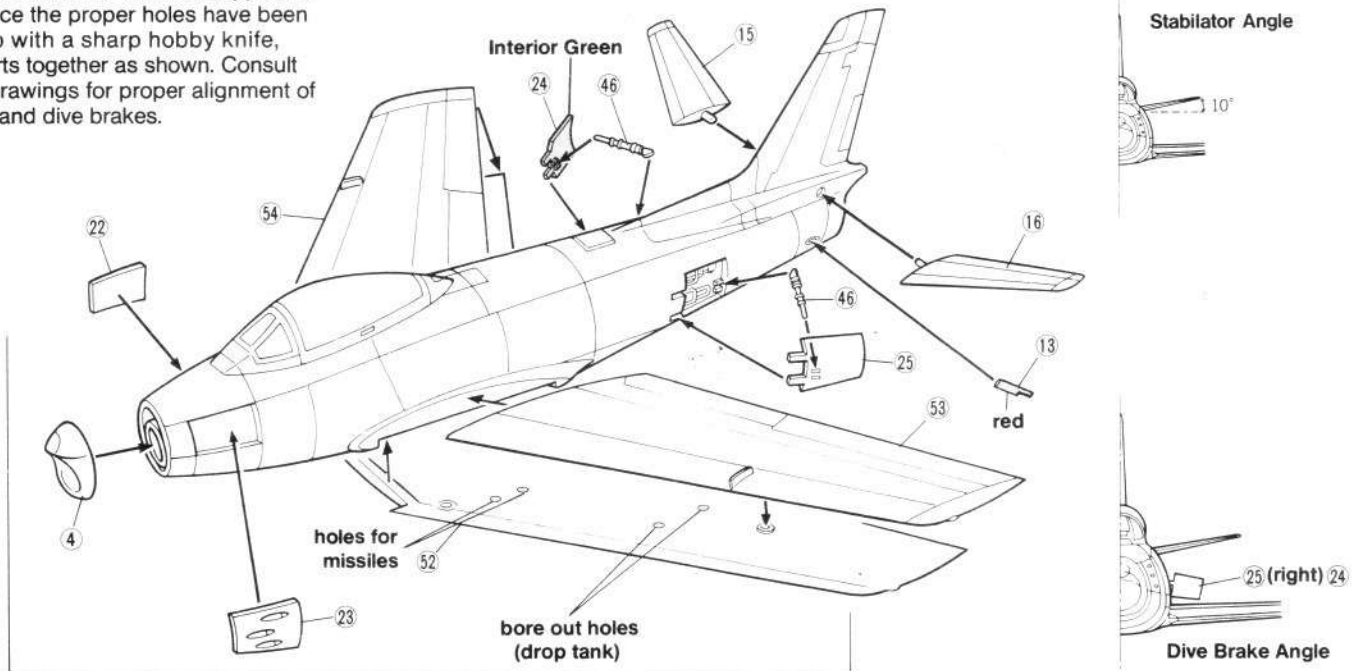
FS 17178 Chrome Silver

13:

FS 31136 Insignia Red

Assembly

- 1. If you would like to use the drop tanks, bore out the holes indicated on each outer wing panel inside lower wing 52. Drop tanks were carried by all F-86Fs. This kit also contains sidewinder missiles, however, it should be noted that these were not carried by either of the versions supplied in this kit. Once the proper holes have been opened up with a sharp hobby knife, cement parts together as shown. Consult the small drawings for proper alignment of stabilators and dive brakes.



5 LANDING GEAR

Preliminary Painting

11, 37 wheel hubs only; 10, 38, 39:

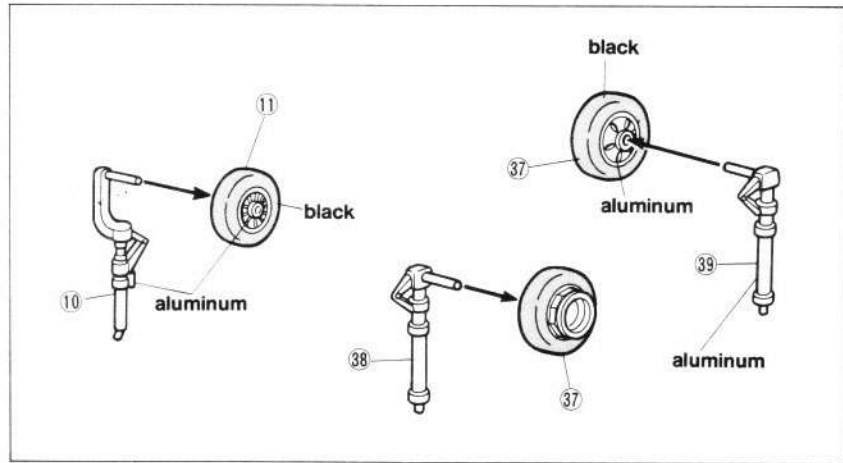
No. 1781 Aluminum

11, 37 tires only:

FS 37038 Flat Black

Assembly

□1. Cement wheels to struts as shown.



6 LANDING GEAR MOUNTING

Preliminary Painting

1, 2, 18, 19, 20, 21 inner side of doors; 9:

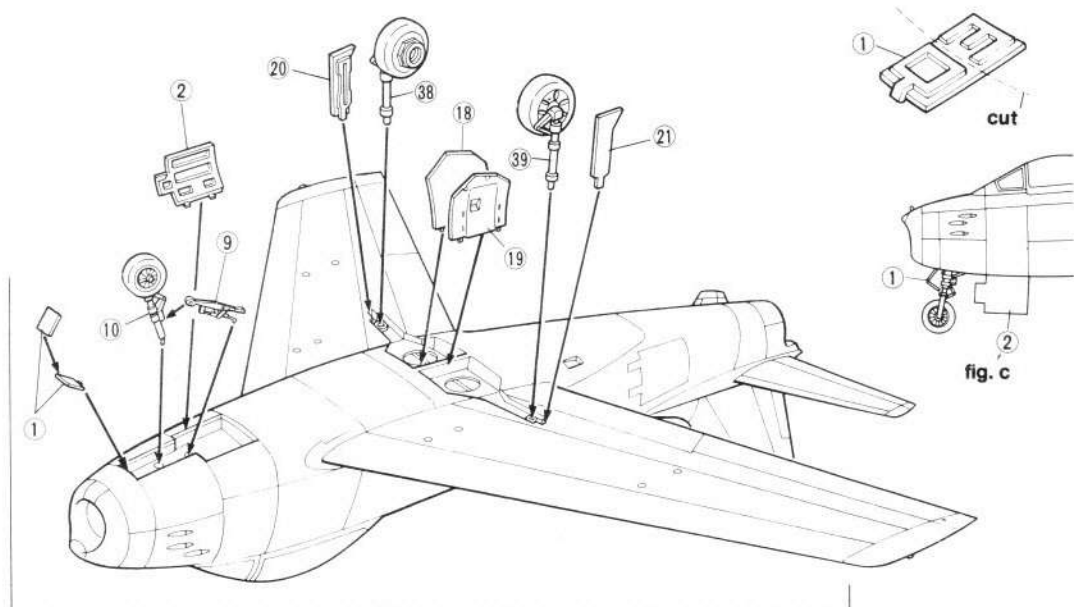
No. 1781 Aluminum

interior of wheel wells:

FS 34151 Interior Green

Assembly

□1. Cement landing gear struts into wheel wells as shown. Cement actuator strut 9 to pin on nose gear strut and hole in wheel well. Cement landing gear doors to positions indicated. Note that nose gear door 1 should be cut in two as indicated then cemented in place as shown (also see drawing at fig. c).



7 STORES

Preliminary Painting

26, 27, 28, 29, 40, 41:

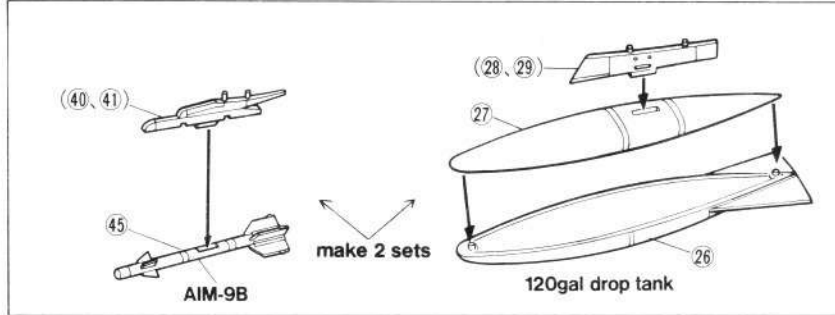
Undersurface Color (see pgs. 7 and 8)

45 missiles:

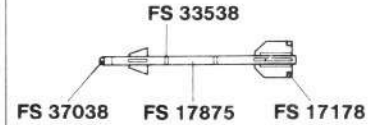
See diagram this page

Assembly

- 1. Cement parts together as shown.



AIM-9B Sidewinder Painting



8 FINAL ASSEMBLY

Preliminary Painting

6, 7:

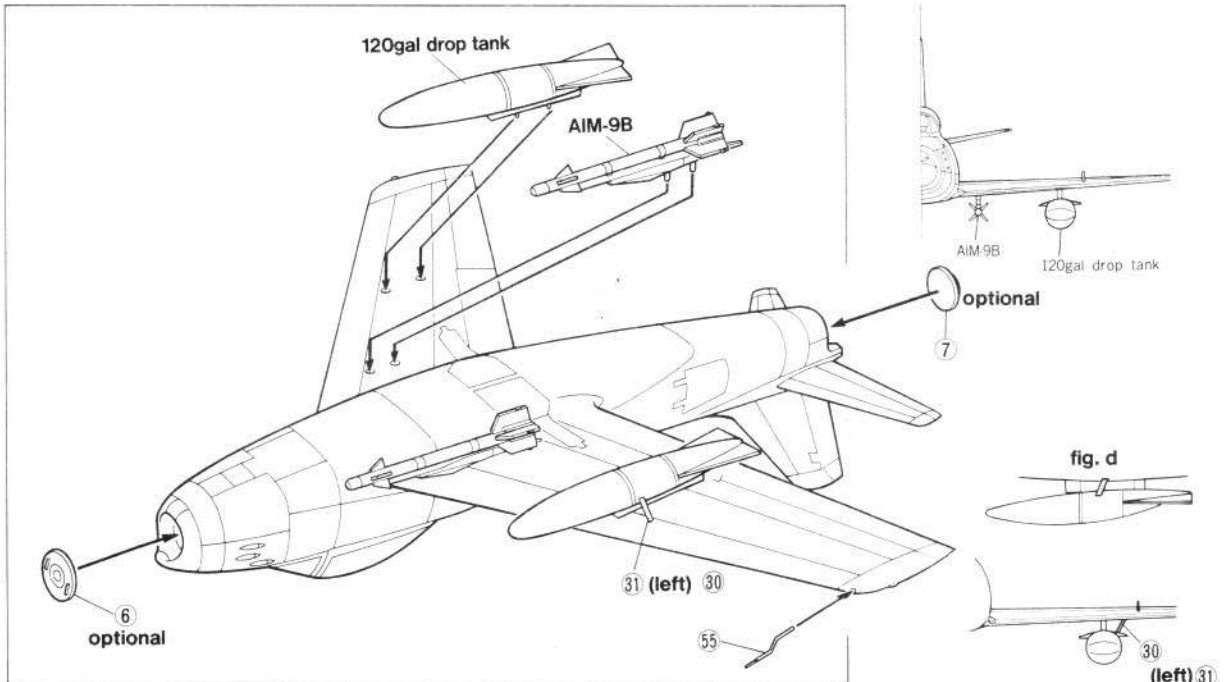
FS 31136 Insignia Red

30, 31; 55 tip only:

FS 17178 Chrome Silver

Assembly

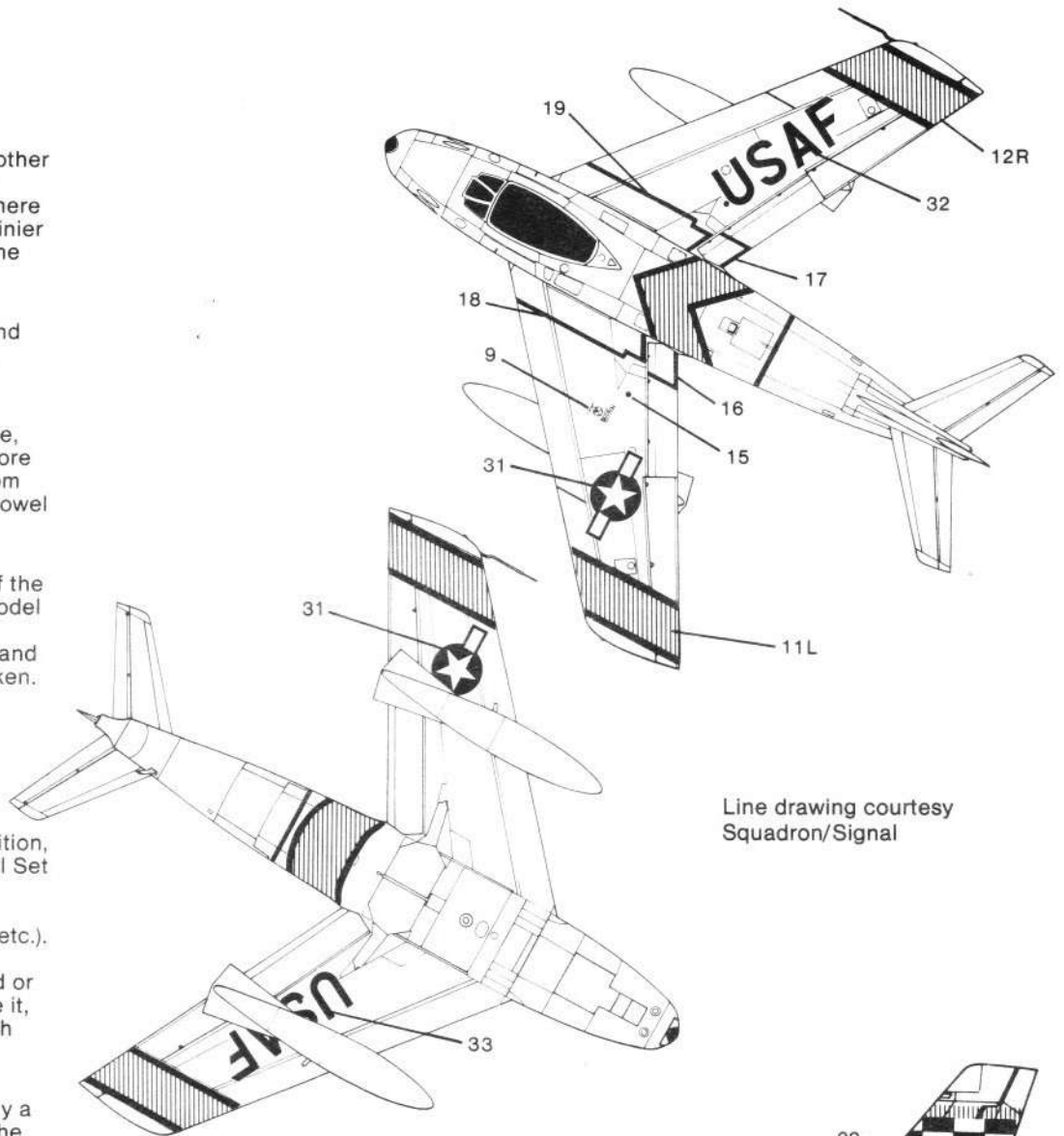
- 1. Cement drop tanks to underside of each wing. Cement fuel pipes 30 and 31 to the outside of each tank and underside of wing (see the drawings at **fig. d** to aid positioning of these parts). The intake and exhaust covers 6 and 7 are optional and may be left off if desired. Cement pitot tube 55 to hole in leading edge of wing.



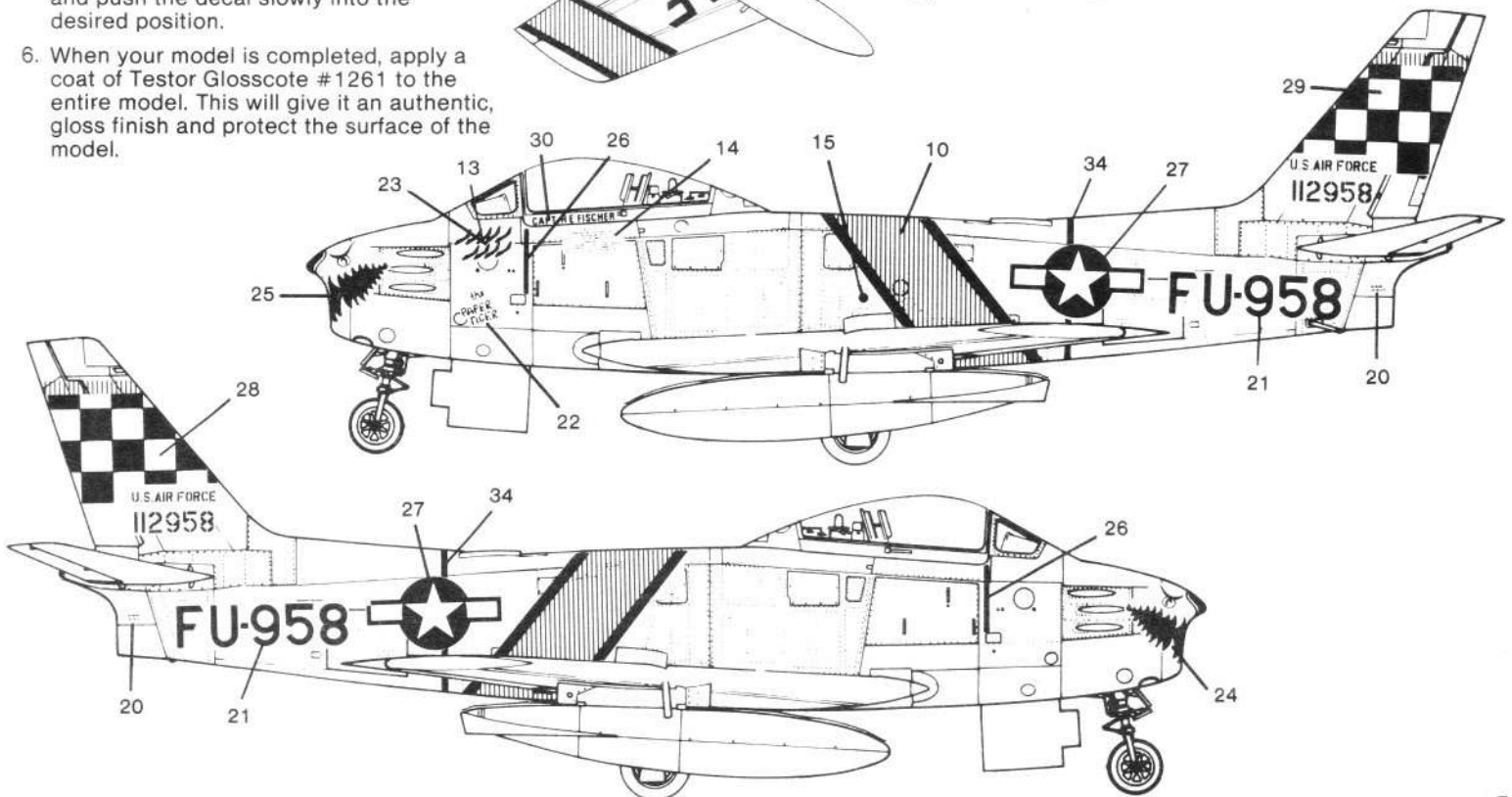
 FS 17178 Chrome Silver

APPLYING DECALS

1. After carefully masking canopy and other clear areas, spray entire model with Testor Glosscote #1261. Decals adhere best to a smooth surface and the shinier the finish, the smoother it is. Allow the Glosscote to dry thoroughly before going further.
2. Select the decals you plan to use, and cut each of them out from the decal sheet with small scissors or Testor Hobby Knife.
3. Working with only one decal at a time, dip the decal in clear water for no more than five seconds, then remove it from the water and place on a dry paper towel for about one minute.
4. When the decal slides easily on the backing paper, slide it to the edge of the paper and onto the surface of the model with a soft paintbrush or tweezers. Remember: the decals are very thin and can be easily ripped if care is not taken. Work slowly and patiently.
5. Once the decal is in the desired position, apply a small amount of Testor Decal Set #8804. This will help the decal to conform to any irregularities in the surface of the model (rivets, curves, etc.). Allow the decal to dry undisturbed. Should you find the decal has moved or should you desire to purposely move it, apply a little Decal Set to a soft brush and push the decal slowly into the desired position.
6. When your model is completed, apply a coat of Testor Glosscote #1261 to the entire model. This will give it an authentic, gloss finish and protect the surface of the model.



Line drawing courtesy Squadron/Signal



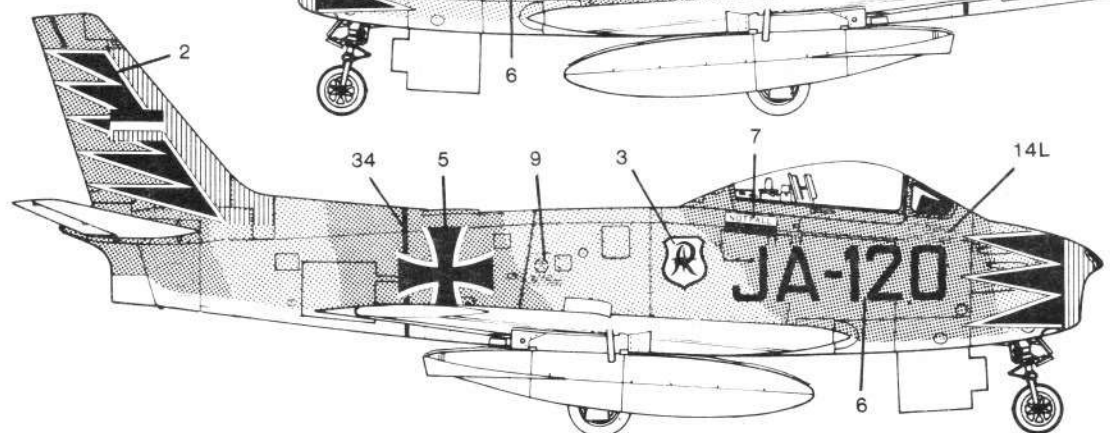
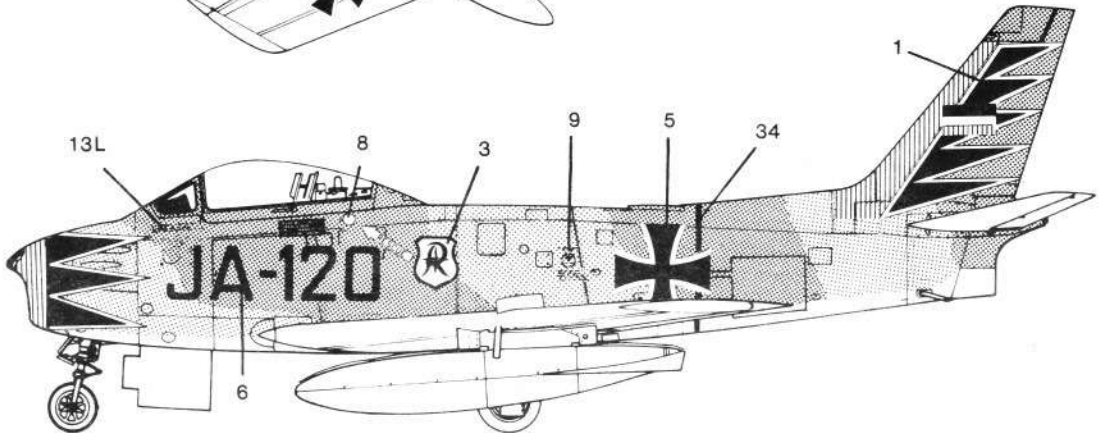
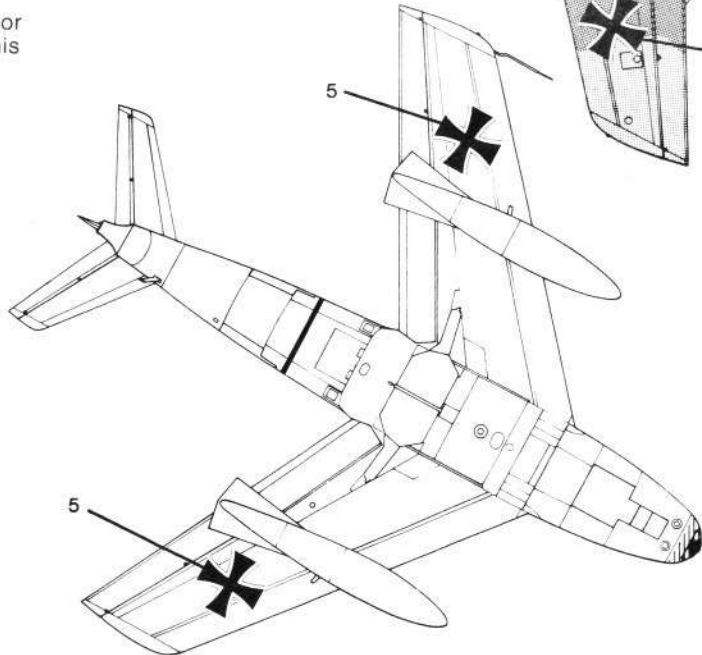
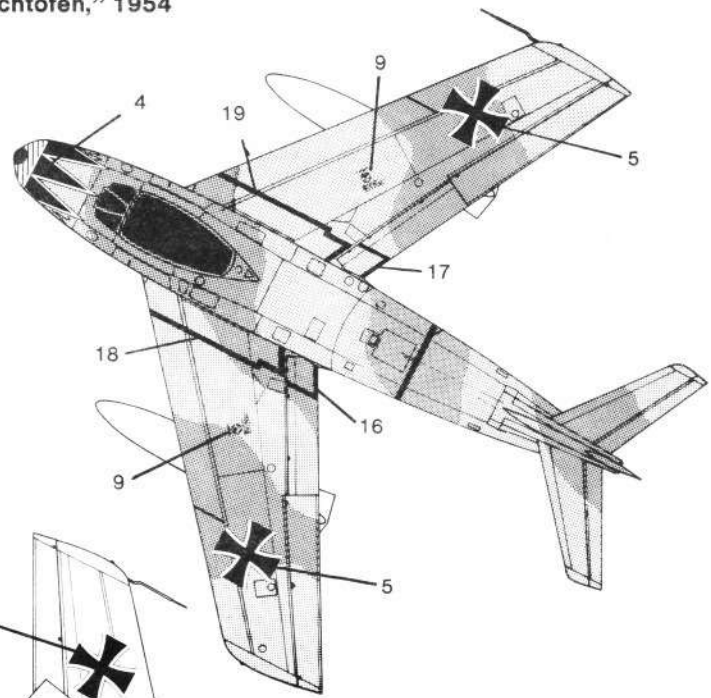
PAINTING

F-86F Sabre 6 1st Staffel, JG 71 "Richtofen," 1954

-  FS 34079 Dark Green
-  FS 36118 Gunship Grey
-  FS 36270 Neutral Grey
-  FS 31136 Insignia Red

Follow the **Applying Decals** paragraphs on page 3 except for Step 6. Instead, follow the Step 6 below for the German F-86.

6. When the decals are completely dry (usually overnight), apply a coat of Testor Dullcote #1260 to the entire model. This will give it an authentic, dull finish and protect the surface of the model.



SCALE-MASTER®
1:60
1/2" = 1"

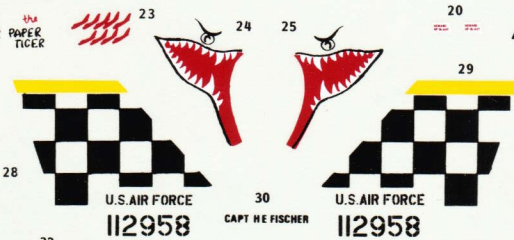
F-86F SABRE #344

TESTORS



JA-120
JA-120

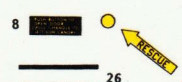
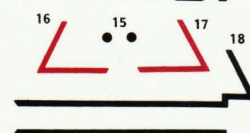
FU-958
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USAF FSU



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